

THE WESTERN FRONT

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Winner of eight 2013 Society of Professional Journalists Awards

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RALLYING FOR DIVERSITY



700 gather in the PAC lawn

By Brandon Stone

Students weaved through campus Monday, April 28, holding banners reading, “diversity is strength” and “love has no color” in a celebration of diversity on Western’s campus.

Students Danyal Lotfi, Heather Heffelmire and Mayra Guizar organized the march called “Day of Action, ‘Diversity Is.’” Approximately 700 students attended the rally, said Paul Cocke, director of university communications.

The rally was in response to protests on campus equating diversity with “white genocide” and the slew of negative media attention surrounding comments made by President Bruce Shepard, which were deemed “anti-white.”

Students met in the early

afternoon at Wade King Student Recreation Center and marched across campus to the Performing Arts Center lawn where students, faculty and community members spoke.

Roxanne Murphy, a member of the Nooksack Indian Tribe, is the first minority member on the Bellingham City Council. Murphy was first elected to the City Council fall 2013. She expressed support for Shepard and saw the rally as a sign that diversity is on the rise at Western.

“[The rally] was ridiculously exciting,” Murphy said. “It really shows the volition of the entire student body.”

Murphy speaks out about the need to diversify Bellingham

see DIVERSITY, page 5



Above: Danyal Lotfi and Heather Heffelmire speak on a stage to a crowd of people in front of the PAC.

Below: Ricardo Escobar, left, and Teena Thach, right, lead a chant to a crowd of students.

// Photos by Chanel Retasket

Forest Street church for sale, potential student housing

By Rachel Loofburrow

The Seventh-day Adventist Church is selling its property all possible uses for the land are being considered, including student housing.

KW Commercial real estate broker Jim Browder and members of his team are assisting the church with the sale at 910 N. Forest St.

The location is excellent for Western students because it is close to campus and downtown, said Spencer Wright, Western alumnus and member of the KW team.

“We have had the most amount of interest from student housing developers,” Wright said. “That seems to be a pretty strong indication that student housing might go in there.”

Western junior Ariel Haustveit recently went through the process of looking for places to live off-campus for the next academic year.

“As a student trying

to find housing, it was not bad,” Haustveit said in an email interview. “However, we had to look farther away from campus to get a cheaper place to stay.”

The property on North Forest Street would be a perfect place for Western students, Haustveit said.

However, she believes families and students from Whatcom Community College and Bellingham Technical College could benefit from having the property be another housing option

close to downtown. Seventh-day Adventist Church is selling the property so it can move to a new location and is currently fundraising for their new facility, Wright said.

The church decided to move to a new location because there was no money for the church to make repairs at the current location, said Western Professor Phil Nelson, treasurer and elder for the church.

see CHURCH, page 5

New book details benefits of hemp

By Robert Krause II

Doug Fine, author of the best-selling book “Too High to Fail,” will return to Village Books in Bellingham at 7 p.m. April 29 to give a slideshow presentation on his new book, “Hemp Bound,” which discusses the environmental benefits of hemp.

Published in March, “Hemp Bound” includes a history of the hemp plant dating back to Colonial America, the various applications of hemp and a business model that American farmers can use to profit from selling hemp and its products, Fine said.

One of the environmental benefits of hemp is its ability to remove toxins from soil, Fine said.

The hemp plant performs a process called phytoremediation, which is the plant’s ability to remedy toxicity of soil caused by bacteria, heavy metals and chemicals, said Nancy Metcalf, a campaign coordinator for Hemp History Week.

“Hemp is really going to help humanity. I think it’s going to be great for Washington state especially.”

— Doug Fine, author of “Hemp Bound”

“A number of plants are effective at doing this,” she said. “Hemp is really championed as a leader at phytoremediation because it grows so incredibly quickly.”

Hemp takes only 100 days to mature, meaning all of hemp’s biological processes happen faster than most other plants, enabling the plant to draw toxins out of the soil faster, she said.

see HEMP, page 4

Online Content

Dissolving a collection: Margot Casstevens

Former CIA director Robert Gates speaks at Western’s model UN

Former Western professor talks Whatcom County’s jazz history

TED Talks: How Schools Kill Creativity

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Students pack VU for concert



Balloons rain down on Western students Sunday, April 27, during the Associated Students Pop Concert with headliner Starfucker (STRFKR) in Western's Multi-Purpose Room. Starfucker, a band from Portland, Oregon, released a myriad of balloons from the stage into the cheering crowd to be hit around the room. // Photo by Kyra Betteridge

Upcoming events

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p>Tuesday, April 29</p> <p>Gear Grab
What: Buy/Sell outdoor gear
Where: Viking Union 565
When: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Cost: Free admission</p> <p>Locke
What: Screening of Locke
Where: Pickford Film Center
When: 7 p.m. - 9:15 p.m.
Cost: Adult \$10.50 Child: \$8</p> <p>Embrace
What: Electrobas & funk concert
Where: The Wild Buffalo
When: 9:30 p.m. - 1:30 a.m.
Cost: \$10</p> | <p>Wednesday, April 30</p> <p>Gear Grab
What: Buy/Sell outdoor gear
Where: Viking Union 565
When: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Cost: Free admission</p> <p>Porter Ray & Cam the Mac
What: Live music
Where: Underground Coffee House
When: 8 p.m.
Cost: Free admission</p> <p>Wild Out Wednesday
What: Reggae/Hip-Hop concert
Where: The Wild Buffalo
When: 9:30 p.m. - 1:30 a.m.
Cost: \$3</p> | <p>Thursday, May 1</p> <p>The Good, The Bad & The Ugly
What: Live improv show
Where: The Upfront Theatre
When: 8 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Cost: \$8</p> <p>Comedy Night
What: Stand-up comedy & improv
Where: The Upfront Theatre
When: 10 p.m. - 11 p.m.
Cost: \$5</p> <p>Crosby Tyler
What: Country singer plays live
Where: The Green Frog
When: 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Cost: \$5</p> |
|---|---|--|

Social media corner



For this week's Social Media Corner, we are featuring our first-ever Facebook post from February 6, 2009, a video featuring students protesting Western's football team being cut.

Next issue's question: Sunny weather is finally here! What's the best outdoor activity to do in Bellingham? Let us know on Twitter for a chance to be featured here!

Follow us online and look out for our semi-weekly questions/challenges! Our editorial staff selects appropriate submissions Mondays and Thursdays during the academic quarter.

The Western Front

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Sudoku

Difficulty: Super Hard ●●●●●●●●

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	4	6				8	3	
9		7	3			5	4	2
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	8		2		9		6	
		2		4		7		

© Kevin Stone [www.brainbashers.com] // solution on page 9

Corrections

The Western Front strives for accuracy and will correct errors of fact promptly and courteously. Please notify us of any factual errors at westernfrontonline@gmail.com.

Six weed retail shops available, 7,000 seek growing licenses

By Jacqueline Allison

For the first time, Bellingham residents are applying for a state license to grow and process marijuana for the recreational market.

With only six retail stores available in Bellingham, the Washington State Liquor Control Board held a lottery April 21-25 to determine which Bellingham applicants would be awarded retail licenses. The board's website will announce who won the lottery on Friday, May 2.

Whatcom County is allowed 15 stores, according to the Board's website. Spouses Danielle and Juddy Rosellison said they may start growing marijuana through their business Trail Blazin' Productions as early as June.

"We are mostly doing it for money for our family and money for our community," Danielle Rosellison said.

By January 2014, the Board had received over 7,000 marijuana business license applications. There are three types of licenses: grower, processor and retailer.

Trail Blazin' applied for two separate licenses: growing and processing. With their processing license, the Rosellisons can package their weed and make buds, joints and hash.

The board set no limit on the number of grower and processor licenses it will issue, but there is a limit on the number of plants a licensed business can grow. Trail Blazin' will receive their license if they can pass state inspections, and a financial audit which are occurring now, Rosellison said.

Businesses cannot hold both a

grower and retailer license, which is why the Rosellisons must find a local Bellingham retailer to sell their marijuana.

However, there is a statewide cap on the number of retailers. Initiative 502, which legalized marijuana for adults 21 and over, spells out restrictions on the number of retail stores per county, said Michael Lilliquist, member of the Bellingham City Council. The rule was deliberately included in the initiative to convince voters that legal marijuana could be under

"Now when I talk to people, everyone wants to invest."

—Danielle Rosellison
Owner of Trail Blazin'

control, Lilliquist said.

The first part of the state inspection required that the Rosellisons pass a background check and send in fingerprints, Rosellison said.

They then submitted a plan detailing their business operations and layout of the grow house. A local investigator will inspect their grow house, checking that all equipment is in place.

If inspections go well, Rosellison and her husband hope to receive their license on June 9, she said. Immediately after they receive their license, they can start bringing in non-flowering plants.

Trail Blazin' applied to be a Tier 2 producer, which means it can grow between 2,000-7,000 square feet of

plants, Rosellison said.

"I'm a firm believer that you cannot grow enough [marijuana]," Rosellison said. "I believe the retailers are going to be knocking on our doors."

Stores selling marijuana may open this summer, depending on when retailers receive their licenses, she said.

Trail Blazin' Productions is located in Bellingham's Irongate Neighborhood and is currently under construction, Rosellison said.

Rosellison budgeted the average cost to set up a grow house at between \$300,000 and \$400,000.

To pay for it, the Rosellisons got a second mortgage on their house, asked their credit card companies to increase their limits and found investors, she said.

Finding investors has been relatively easy this year, Rosellison said. Last year, however, when marijuana was illegal and a fairly taboo subject, it was difficult.

Rosellison thinks that the January 2014 legalization of marijuana in Colorado may have started to change people's attitudes, she said.

"Now when I talk to people, everyone wants to invest," Rosellison said. "We're like the cool kids on the block."

Before Washington voters approved Initiative 502 on the November 2012 ballot, the Rosellisons grew medical marijuana, Rosellison said.

They decided to start growing for the lucrative recreational market to save for retirement, give their children a great education and provide living-wage jobs to Bellingham citizens, Rosellison said.

Meghan Payne, Western junior,

thinks that the legalization of marijuana is a positive step, she said.

The revenue generated from marijuana sales can go toward funding public education — something Colorado has done, she said.

Using marijuana has helped Payne with depression and anxiety. "I don't think it's something to hide," she said.

Western student Autumn Simmons has had a green card for over a year.

Marijuana helps alleviate her stomach pain, but she doesn't like to use it too frequently because of the mental high, she said.

When retail stores open, she will continue to get her weed from dispensaries, she said.

Even before they applied for their license in November 2013, Rosellison started looking for a location for their grow house.

"Finding a location is incredibly difficult," Rosellison said. "That is the number one issue [producers, processors and retailers] are running into."

The state requires that grow houses be at least 1000 feet from a school, library, public park, a rec center or transit center, she said. Whatcom County is also implementing its own rules, including that grow houses be at least 1000 feet from a community center, she said.

Washingtonians may be able to buy and sell marijuana out in the open as early as this summer. The public's attitude, however, may take longer to change, Rosellison said.

It will take time before passing a joint around will be as acceptable as opening a bottle of wine at a dinner party, she said.

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HEMP: An environmental lifeline

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Another environmental application of hemp Fine wants to see is biomass gasification, which he describes as “small, independent, regional energy parks, where farmers bring their farm waste and turn it into energy, leading us away from fossil fuels.”

“Parts of Europe are already doing it,” Fine said. “So I think that hemp, as a solution to the energy situation, is very viable.”

“Hemp Bound” was written to give farmers a climate change strategy, Fine said.

“Hemp is about to take off in our economy,”
— **Doug Fine,**
author of “Hemp Bound”

Fine’s last visit to Village Books was in July to promote “Too High to Fail,” according to the Village Books website.

“Village Books has supported me for every one of my books — this is the fourth. It is one of my favorite bookstores in the world,” Fine said in an email interview.

Fine said he hopes students will come to the talk because the hemp industry provides a possible career outlet to college graduates.

“Hemp is about to take off in our economy,” Fine said. “There



Author Doug Fine poses with his goat, Bjork. // Photo courtesy of Doug Fine

are so many ways today’s students can be a part of that, from botany to law. The ‘Hemp Bound’ book and live event provide a handbook for student options.”

Village Books hosts author events about 250 times a year, said one of the store’s managers Sarah Hutton.

Hutton said that Village Books decides what books to sell based on past sales, timely interest, local authors and consumer input.

“Hemp is really going to help humanity,” Fine said. “I think it’s going to be great for Washington state especially.”

Hemp Facts

Nutrition

Hemp is the closest thing that we can get to a complete protein — meaning having every single essential amino-acid in the plant kingdom.

Along with being high-protein, hemp is high in essential fatty acids like omega-3 and omega-6.

One type of omega-6 that is particularly helpful to people is called gamma-linolenic acid (GLA). Hemp seed is high in GLA, which helps stitch skin cells together so people with skin conditions can benefit from external or internal intake of GLA

Construction

Conventional building materials — like fiberglass insulation, synthetic foam—are unable to breathe properly and are susceptible to mold, mildew and bacterial growth

If builders switch to building materials to hemp which resist the growth of mold, mildew and bacterial growth we may be able to build healthy houses for people to live in again.

DIVERSITY: Community speaks

Student-made banners read ‘Diversity = Us’

continued from page 1

at every opportunity. When student organizers invited her to speak, she jumped at the chance to show her support for Western.

“When the college starts getting broader diversity, that gets more people experiencing our city and that gets more people, hopefully, aspiring to get jobs here,” Murphy said. “That’s one way [Western] can help diversify [Bellingham].”

One student-made banner read “diversity = us,” a direct response to the “diversity = white genocide” banner that protesters carried Saturday, April 19.

Megan Cook, a senior at Western, saw the rally from Wilson Library and decided to check it out.

Cook was surprised by the turnout and the amount of minority students who attended. She agrees with Shepard that Western would benefit from more diversity.

Western student Amina Shah was also surprised by the amount of ethnic students who attended. She didn’t realize Western was as diverse as it is and hopes more people see this side of the university.

Shah came to the rally with Yosan Kiflemariam. Both students said they are almost always the only students of color in their classes.

Increased diversity will help students see the world, and themselves, from a different perspective, Shah said.

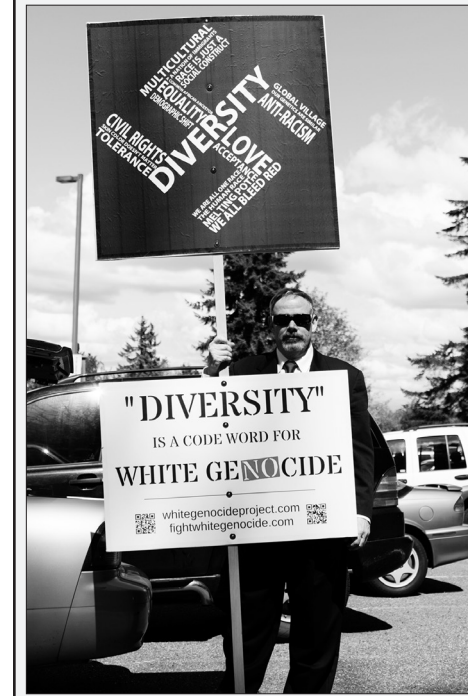
Shah and Kiflemariam both support Shepard’s message that the minority populations are not accurately represented in the student body.

“He was just the first to speak out, so he got attacked,” Kiflemariam said. “That was courageous of him.”

Heffelmire was amazed by the turnout. She doesn’t have any plans for another event, but hopes that this event sparks independent movement from other students.

Anti-diversity activist responds to ‘Diversity Is’

By John Boone and Nick Thomas



Jimmy Marr an anti-diversity activist protested on campus in front of Old Main on Monday, April 28.

// Photo by Tommy Calderon

Oregon resident Jimmy Marr was on campus during the diversity rally Monday, April 28, staging a counter-protest while holding a sign reading “diversity is a code word for white genocide.”

Increasing diversity can be equated to “soft genocide” in that it reduces the population of white people, Marr said.

“To take the anti-white buzzwords and configure them into the form of the swastika is a good symbolic way for me to get across my message,” Marr said.

Western student Ricky Wilson saw Marr during his protest.

While he understands freedom of speech, Wilson said he felt “very offended” by Marr and his sign.

“This wasn’t the time or place to bring that here,” Wilson said.

Marr was asked to leave Red Square by campus police to avoid conflict with the Diversity Is marchers, said Paul Cocke, director of university communications.

Marr is not formally linked to any outside organization, he said.

CHURCH: Attractive to students, close to campus and downtown



Located on 910 N. Forest St., the Seventh-day Adventist Church is selling their property, which could potentially cater to student housing, depending on the developer. // Photo by Melissa McDonough

continued from page 1

KW received opinions on what type of housing should be put on the property from city planners and citizens who would like to see more traditional multi-family housing at the location, Wright said.

“It is our recommendation that we market it toward multi-family developers,” Wright said. “But we are not excluding any other use.”

Depending on the type of housing; student, multi-family or senior, the rent and the look of the property would vary quite a bit, Wright said.

“Given the location, we thought that it would be an extremely attractive place to live [for] either someone who is working, going to Western or even going to another school,”

Wright said.

The church would like to get the maximum value possible, which is why housing developers are more likely to obtain the land, Wright said.

“It is possible that a church will buy the property,” Wright said. “We don’t think that will happen because the developers tend to have the deepest pockets and we’re looking for the highest value possible.”

The offer deadline for the property is Friday, May 30, and a developer will be selected within the next month, he said.

“We are taking an unpriced approach and it’s kind of like an auction,” Wright said.

The property is listed as unpriced because there weren’t any comparable land sales in the area, Wright said.

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A WEEKEND WITH THE WYVERNS

Western's Quidditch team takes second in regional tournament

Story and photos by
Daniella Beccaria

Fourteen players kneel in a line on the artificial turf, heads down, eyes closed and brooms in hand. A player dressed in bright yellow runs from the field. As the referee yells "The snitch is released!" both teams tense with anticipation. The whistle blows as players jump to their feet, mount their brooms and race to the center of the field. The game is on.

For Western's Quidditch team, the Western Wyverns, the April 25-27 excursion to Boise, Idaho, was more than just a tournament; it was a family road trip, said Daniel "Sobo" Sobocinski, a Wyverns team member.

Sam Seid, the Wyvern's team captain, led the Wyverns against five other teams in "Brooms on the Blue," a

Quidditch tournament hosted by Boise State University. The Wyverns packed into two vans and left Bellingham on Friday, April 26, with 17 players — a smaller group than the nearly 30 players who come to their weekly scrimmage on the lawn in front of Western's Communications Facility.

"Sam's like the father of the group and I'm like the wise older brother," Sobocinski said. Sobocinski isn't particularly athletic, but enjoys the game because of the friendships he's made.

What started out as an 11-hour trip turned into nearly 14 hours on the road, but the team came prepared with a multitude of mix CDs for the ride.

"Sometimes I think we're the Disney Musicals Club and I have to remind

myself that we're not," Robert Stolzberg said as the team belted "I'll Make a Man Out of You" from "Mulan." Just like any other road trip, car games were in full effect as well as constant napping, singing and stopping to fill up on gas.

"We're on state business," Seid said during the drive.

"Yeah, official state business," Abbey Schmidt, another member of the team, said.

The rental policy for a university owned van states that "a state vehicle may only be used for official state business," which became a running joke throughout the trip.

After finally arriving in Boise at 2 a.m., the team crashed at the captain of Boise

State's Quidditch team's house.

At 7 a.m. on Saturday, both teams threw on their uniforms and shoved down breakfast pastries. The Wyverns packed back into the vans and headed to the tournament at Boise State University, arriving with time to check in and warm up before the first game against Merc, a team of players from different universities within the region that couldn't establish full teams on their own.

The Wyverns flew through the first three games with a 90-10 win against the Mercs, a 130-20 win against Boise State's B Team and a 120-40 win against

University of Arizona.

"It's not about the muscle and the brotherhood," Sobocinski said about their first three wins. "It's about the brother and the musclehood."

The next game against University of Utah proved to be a little more difficult. The Wyverns scored 10 points against Utah's Crimson Flyers, who won the final game with 140 points and a winning snitch grab, giving the Wyverns second place overall. Teams designate a seeker to grab the ball hanging off the back of the snitch. This game also took two of the Wyverns' key players, Alex Ramsey and Sarah Bollard, out of the game with injuries.

"This game is a sport where people get hurt," said Mitchell Hatfield, a member of the team. He spent the weekend recovering from an ankle injury he got during one of their scrimmages. Hatfield still attended the tournament to help and support the team.

The Wyverns were a little disappointed but excited about the prospect of winning second place, some of the team members said. Even more so, they were just happy to be able to play the game with other schools that enjoy the game as much as they do, Siri Rigsby, another team member, said.

"We're not playing to score on each other," Rigsby said. "We're just playing to play."

Boise State's A-Team forfeited their game with the Wyverns after playing multiple games back-to-back and reaching exhaustion. The Wyverns then lost their last game against Utah's

Crimson Fliers and placed second overall.

"Win or lose guys, we played a hell of a game," Seid said.

After the games, the Wyverns collapsed on the grass and shared pizza with the other teams. The teams later met up for drinks and games at Dave and Buster's in downtown Boise.

At 3:30 a.m. Sunday, April 27, the team pulled themselves out of bed and packed their belongings back into the vans with another 12 hours of driving ahead of them. For the first part of the journey home, the majority of them slept the early Sunday hours away. The rest of the trip was filled with another 10 or so car games and a reflection on what they love about Quidditch.

"It's a sport for people who don't like sports, but who also like to play sports," Schmidt said.

Western alumnus Jake Ronhaar was invited to play last year by his friend Drew who is also on the team but was unable to attend the tournament.

"For me it was a new sport to play, with more of a competitive side," Ronhaar said. "I've met a lot of people and made a lot of friends. I even invited my roommate Ross to play, whose even less of a Harry Potter fan."

Since he is no longer a student, Ronhaar cannot participate in intramurals anymore, but he is still able to participate in clubs, he said.

"I think what really won it for us is that we all love each other," Sobocinski said. "You can't beat a family."

How are points scored?

- 10 points are scored for throwing the *quaffle* — a deflated volleyball — through the hoops at the end of the field.
- 30 points are scored for catching the *snitch* — a neutral athlete dressed in yellow, who runs around the field.

Source: iqquidditch.com



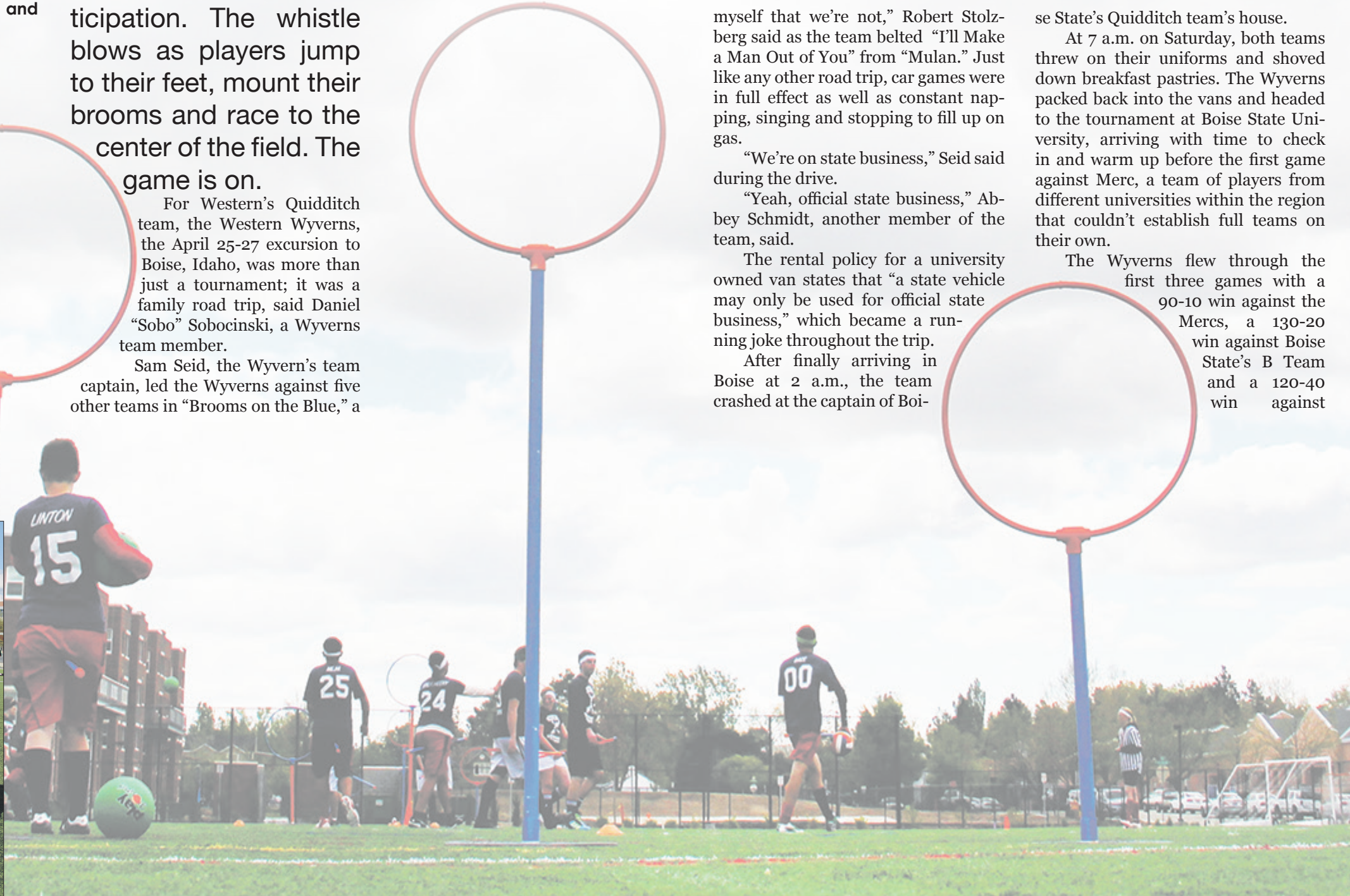
Daniel Sobocinski high fives Nicole Jackson during a break between games at Brooms on the Blue, a Quidditch tournament hosted by Boise State University. The team traveled 587 miles to compete in Boise and ended up placing second against five other teams.



Robert Stolzberg wrestles with the snitch in an attempt to grab the yellow ball hanging on the back of his shorts. Stolzberg subbed in for exhausted seeker Sam Seid. Seid later subbed back in and won the game for Western.



Marcus Toomey, Sam Seid and Siri Rigsby cheerfully hug the University of Utah's Quidditch team after a game. Western's team, the Western Wyverns, placed second overall in the tournament. "We're not playing to score on each other, we're just playing to play," Rigsby said.



Background image: The three Quidditch hoops stand tall against a cloudy sky on Friday April 25 in Boise, Idaho where the Wyverns competed in a Quidditch tournament hosted by Boise State University. Players earn points by throwing a quaffle, a deflated volleyball, through the rings.



Western Wyverns Siri Rigsby, Marcus Toomey, Jake Ronhaar, Brad Peetz, Robert Stolzberg and Ian Howard celebrate their second-place win with a night out at Dave and Buster's. The team spent the evening winning tickets and bonding with a few members from the other Quidditch teams who participated in Brooms on the Blue, a tournament hosted by Boise State University.

Capturing the world through pin-sized holes

Workshop shows residents how to turn ordinary objects into makeshift cameras

By Stephanie Bishop

A paint-chipped Holly Hobbie lunch box sits upon the gravel as Jason Byal lies in front of it, careful to make sure he stays as still as he can. Upon closer inspection, the carefully angled lunch box has a small hole in the front and has been wrapped with black electrical tape along the rim.

After a few minutes pass, Suzanne Whittman places a small piece of tape on top of the hole to prevent any more light from entering the box and rushes to the dark room inside of Positive Negative Photography Center in downtown Bellingham to develop the photo she has just taken.

In order to help people make pinhole cameras, Byal, creator and director of Positive Negative, hosted his second annual set of workshops on Saturday, April 26, and taught customers how to take ordinary products and turn them into fully functioning cameras for World Pinhole Day on Sunday, April 27, Byal said.

"I just wanted to share something that I think is fun, inspiring, educational and starting to be a lost art," Byal said.

Pinhole cameras are simple cameras that can be constructed out of everyday materials. Beer cans, chocolate tins and shoeboxes were just some of the items used at the workshops. To make the cameras, people drilled a tiny hole into each container to turn them into cameras.

Once the hole is punctured into a container, people take a needle and poke another hole into a square piece of a beer can and then burn off the excess aluminum once the hole is made. The aluminum piece is then positioned over the hole in the object, properly angled and wrapped in black masking tape to keep excess light from seeping in.

A pinhole camera is traced back to the days of camera obscura and Leonardo da Vinci, in which people took objects and capture light through a small aperture, Byal said.

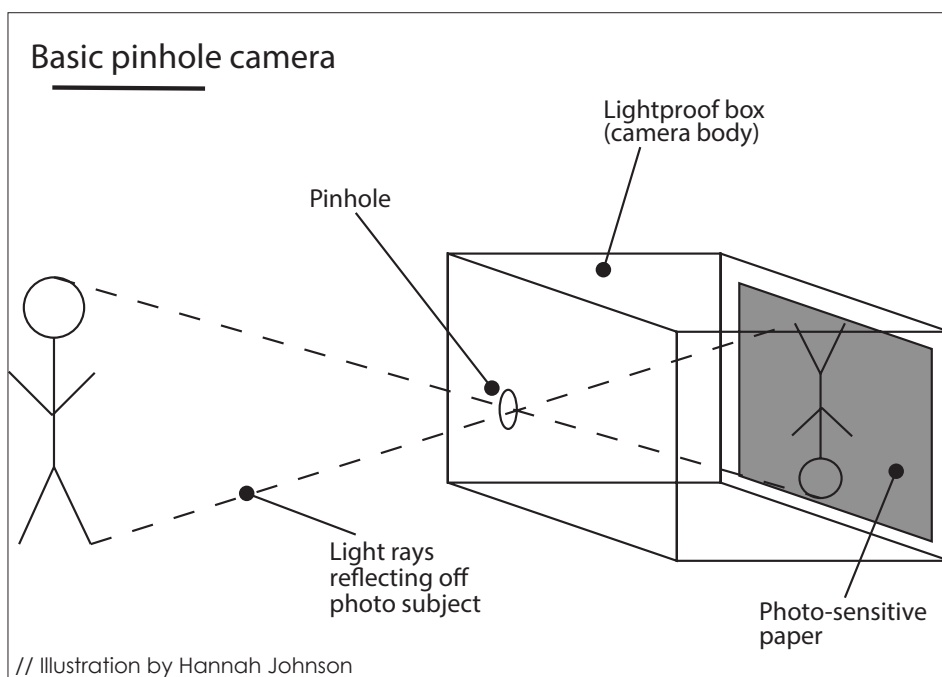
On World Pinhole Day, people around the world take photos with their own cameras, register their city on the World Pinhole Day website and uploads their photos for everyone across the world to see, Byal said.

"It's a matter of gathering and funneling inspiration and sharing our images," he said.

A pinhole camera can essentially be



Owner of Positive Negative Photography Center Jason Byal poses for a pinhole lunchbox camera on Saturday, April 26. // Photo by Tommy Calderon



// Illustration by Hannah Johnson

made out of anything so long as it can turn into a vessel that can let light enter into it and is able to have photo paper loaded inside of it, Byal said.

Harrison Holtzman-Knott, a Western alumnus, enjoys the simplicity pinhole cameras have to offer, he said.

"Jason presented the opportunity to make cameras and to step back from more of that technical side and focus more on the creativity of making a camera from scratch," he said.

While the camera is basic, Whittman also feels as though the simplicity

adds a bit of a magical sense to the photos she takes.

"You're telling me I put this paper in a coffee can, pull back this piece of duct tape and then there's going to be an image on it?" Whittman said. "It's magical — it's awesome."

Once the holes are properly poked, all of the black tape has been wrapped on the object and the photo paper has been positioned inside of the camera, people are ready to record still images, Byal said.

All one has to do is angle the makeshift camera, rip the tape-made shutter

off and leave the object alone before placing the shutter back on, Byal said.

Because there is no viewfinder on pinhole cameras, it's up to the person to properly assume where to angle the camera in order to take a photo of what they intend to take a picture of, Whittman said.

"You just point and hope for the best," Whittman said.

Byal encourages workshop attendees to get creative by going to different places and trying out various angles by using a tripod.

Western Alumnus Joshua Clements decided to take his chocolate-tin pinhole camera down to the harbor to capture images of fishing boats.

"I was sitting there with my little tin at the harbor and there were people coming by," Clements said. "I was curious to what they thought I was doing."

Others rode bicycles to various locations and took photos of flowers and bicycles while others stayed near the photo center and took pictures of the cars and buildings close by.

First-time workshop attendee Kelsey Roberts, a Western alumnus, felt as though she learned a lot from her first time making pinhole cameras.

"You don't get a lot of opportunities to do hands-on projects like that," she said.

People who attended the workshop were encouraged to take photos with their camera to publish on the World Pinhole Day's official website, where pinhole photos can be seen from all around the globe, Byal said.

"It was really cool to check out the World Pinhole Day website and see everybody's photos and realize that there are people all around the world doing the same thing that you are that day," Whittman said. "Feels like you're part of a community that you can't even see."

Pinhole camera photos will be displayed on Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., May 2-24 in Byal's studio, Positive Negative Photography Center.

Visit www.pinholeday.org to see pictures from around the world

FRONTLINE

Opinions of the Editorial Board

Free speech promotes understanding

The idea of freedom of speech is treasured by many.

We fight tooth-and-nail for our right to express ourselves against any who would infringe on this sacred right. Yet too often people advocate curbing this same right, as it applies to others, because of disagreement.

It is true the First Amendment protects speech that may be offensive to some, but even this is important and needs to be protected.

Western has become a mecca for free speech in recent weeks, following the controversy regarding President Bruce Shepard's comment on diversity, and The Western Front received many letters to the editor that we chose to publish.

Some may have been seen as offensive in the gross misinterpretation of the president's words, yet the letters were important to publish in an effort to protect freedom of speech.

The Western Front chooses to allow expression of all kinds, except those constituting hate speech — an attack on an individual or group based on ethnicity, gender, religion, sexual orientation or similar traits.

Every submission is evaluated and some require more discussion than others. However, we act as a forum, empowering individuals to have their voices heard. Whether they have anything worth saying is not for us, but for our readers, to determine.

In fact, whether we agree or disagree with an opinion, we can always use it as a learning opportunity. By understanding the arguments contrary to our beliefs, we are better able to understand our own position.

Freedom of speech invites us to keep an open mind and change our opinions.

Students at Western have used their First Amendment rights to protest the free speech expressed by a few individuals who held signs reading "diversity=white genocide" on April 19 and 20.

"If you ask whether they have a right to organize, to assemble, to free speech — those people we hate have such a right, and we can't get around that. Because, if you take away their rights, you take away my rights also."

— Anthony Griffin,

Griffin was an African American lawyer who defended the Ku Klux Klan in a freedom of speech case in the 1990s.

Students held a rally with their own posters and chants on Monday, April 28, to express their opposition.

Disagreement can be shown by rallying or writing thoughtful letters to be published — as Western students and faculty have done in recent weeks.

Demanding a certain expression be silenced serves only to jeopardize the freedom of all speech. It is a slippery slope; if one person is silenced, where does it end?

A thoughtful, educated response can stand on its own as a weapon against inflammatory remarks and ignorance.

At the end of the day, it is impossible to regulate common sense and thinking processes.

The Western Front invites letters from all our readers on any topic.

Your voice is important and should be heard.

This editorial board comprises editor-in-chief Nick Thomas, managing editor Stefanie Donahue and opinion editor Alisa Gramann.

Viking Voices

Do you think the diversity rally accomplished anything?

Compiled by Jacqueline Allison



"I'm not really sure what the call-to-action was as an individual. I do want to do something but I'm not sure what outlets I can go to."
— **Miranda Aiken,** freshman, biology



"I think it did. [Bruce Shepard] wants to see our school more representative of society today, which is becoming less majority white."
— **Ben Judkins,** junior, political science



"I feel like the goal [of the rally] was to inform students why Bruce Shepard said [his statement]. The students here want a more diverse campus."
— **Becky Newby,** junior, kinesiology



"I like that the rally had an open-ended message. What is our conception of what diversity ought to be and how should we pursue it?"
— **Julian Glasser,** senior, political science

Submission Policy

The Western Front publishes submissions based on space availability.

Send letters and columns with your name, title (such as "Western sophomore") and major to westernfront.opinion@gmail.com.

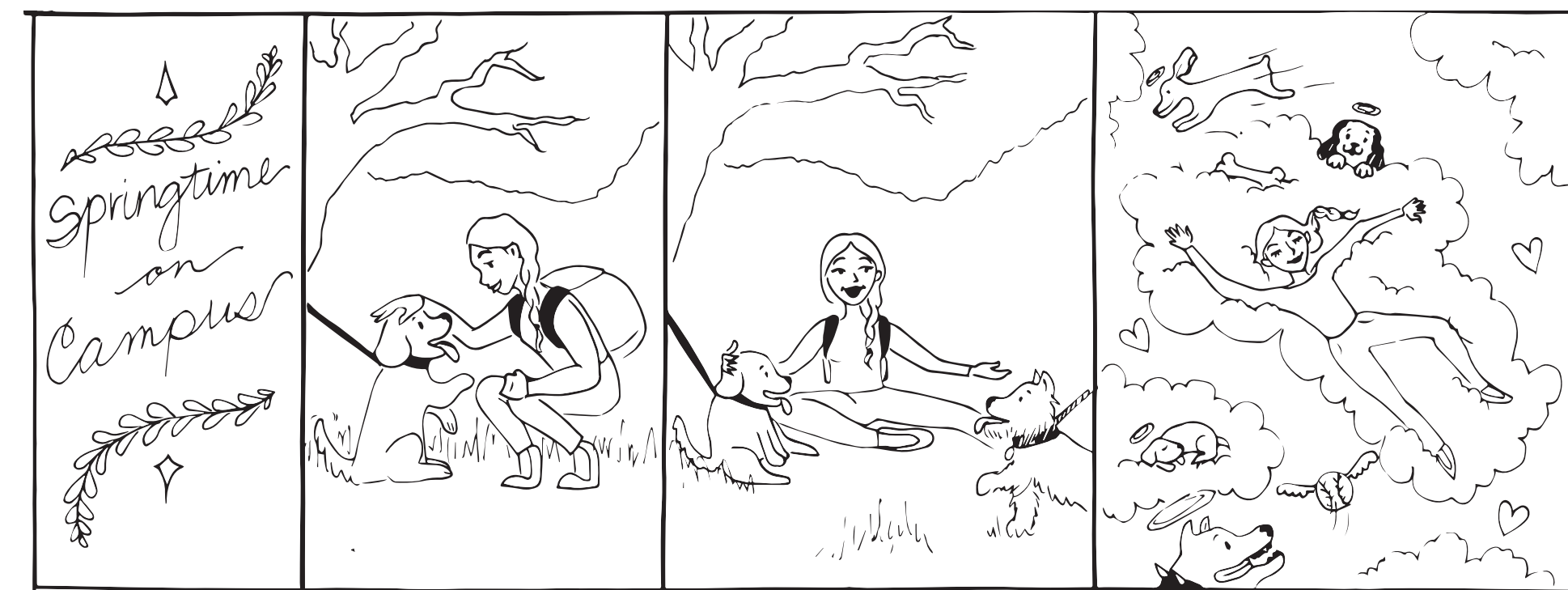
Letters should be no more than 250 words, columns no more than 400.

Anonymous letters or those containing hate speech will not be published. The Western Front reserves the right to edit for length, spelling and grammar.

4	6	7	9	2	8	3	1	5
8	1	5	4	6	3	9	2	7
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9	5	8	3	1	4	6	7	2
1	7	3	6	8	2	5	4	9
7	9	1	8	3	6	2	5	4
5	8	4	2	7	9	1	6	3
6	3	2	1	4	5	7	9	8

Sudoku answers from page 2

Front Funnies



// Cartoon by Hannah Johnson

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Meet Western's new athletic director

Steve Card talks about the future of Western sports

By Heidi DeHart

Steven Card was named Western's athletic director after 23 years as the associate director of business and financial affairs and 20 years as the head coach of Western's men's golf team. He was Western's interim athletic director since May 2013, but was just announced as the permanent choice on March 25.

Card said he has plans to grow the department and continue the high level of play of Western's athletic teams. A plan for helping athletes academically is also a main focus.

Q: What are some of your plans for the future of Western's athletic department?

A: We've got to continue to grow our program. We've had a lot of growth over the years under Lynda Goodrich. I want to continue that. The new multi-purpose field [will provide] opportunities for our men's and women's soccer teams. It has been very difficult over the past 20 years because we have been playing off campus. The student body will be able to come to games because it is right here on campus, which will be great. The community will also be able to see a state-of-the-art facility and our programs.

Q: How will you reach out to the community to promote Western athletics?

A: One of the things we need to focus on are our external relations, reaching out to all our constituents, which would be our students, faculty, staff and the Bellingham and Whatcom community, as well as alumni. We need to do a better job at reaching out to them, so that's really a focus for us. We will also be hiring an associate athletic director for external affairs, and it will be that person's primary responsibility. That is our donor cultivation and engagement, our branding and imaging, our media relations. It will be that person's responsibility to come in, develop that program and execute that program, in terms of reaching all the different constituencies we need to. We need to come up with some different ideas and different planning to try to engage all those groups.

Q: What is the progress of the new multi-purpose field?

A: It is just about complete. We are very, very close to having that available and open. So, sometime in the month of May, we are anticipating it to be open.



Steven Card was officially named Western's new athletic director after a lengthy stint as the associate director of business and financial affairs and the head coach of the men's golf team. // Photo by Tommy Calderon

Q: What is something you would like to see change regarding Western sports?

A: I think it is pretty good right now, our teams are doing great things on their respective fields of play. What I'd like to see improve is higher retention rate, higher graduation rates and higher grade point averages. Philosophically, all of our programs want to compete on a national level, not just on a conference level. That's not going to change. Our goal is to graduate our student athletes. I think we do a pretty good job of that, but that's an on-going work in progress. You always want to improve those numbers.

Q: How do you plan on improving the department?

A: We need an academic adviser who understands what these students have to do, their schedules and communicates with their coaches so that we can identify those students who may be at risk for low grade point averages and give them some additional assistance.

the sports department?

A: On the Division II level and certainly within our conference, we are the top institution. We've won the [Great Northwest Athletic Conference] All-Sports trophy nine or 10 times, and I think we'll win it again this year. On a national level, we've been in the top 15 in the [National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics] Learfield Sports Directors' Cup, which is where they rank all 312 Division II schools. We've been in the top 15 the last five years.

Q: You were a golf coach for 20 years. How do you think that experience has prepared you in leading Western's athletic department?

A: I think it has been very valuable. Having been a coach for 20 years, I know exactly what our coaches are going through. I can relate to our staff and our coaches. I think they have a respect for what I accomplished as a coach, and I certainly have respect for what they are doing. [When] you have that mutual respect, you can [speak] the same language. It really makes communication easy.

Q: Do you miss being a coach?

A: There are times when I really do. I particularly miss it at this time of year, when you get into the post-season. That gets your juices flowing, and there isn't anything that quite replaces that.

Q: Do you still plan on playing golf?

A: Absolutely. I've played for pretty much all my life. It's one of my hobbies. It is such a great game, and one of those sports you can play your entire life. I plan on doing that.

Q: You were also the associate director of business and financial affairs for the department for 20 years. Is there anything in particular from that job you will use for this one?

A: Everything has some sort of financial ramification to it when you're making decisions. So if you don't have that knowledge and it's not readily available, it is very difficult to make decisions. I think that is going to be the backbone of the decisions that I make. It's not just the dollars and cents; it's the decisions [that have been made] for the last 23 or 24 years that I have been involved in. It has provided me with [an understanding] of how we function and how we operate.

Q: How do you think Western relates to other schools in terms of

Women's Golf

Women's golfer named Player of the Year

Team coach Bo Stephan gets named Coach of the Year

By Rachel Ronquillo



Western sophomore golf star Kristen Hansen is the 2014 GNAC Player of the Year. // Photo by Kyra Betteridge

Sophomore Kristen Hansen was named the 2014 Great Northwest Athletic Conference Women's Golf Player of the Year by the conference on Friday, April 25. Hansen was the GNAC Freshman of the Year in 2013 and was a first-team GNAC all-star selection for the second straight season.

Coach Bo Stephan was also named GNAC Coach of the Year. Stephan has coached Western's women's golf team for the past seven years.

"I was really excited to get Player of the Year," Hansen said. "There was a lot of good competition this year, so it was really nice after all of the hard work that I have put in." Freshman Brooke Branigan said

that Hansen's competitive nature is a strong suit of her make-up as a player.

"Kristen is an amazing player and she's very competitive," Branigan said. "Whenever we're at practice she's always asking if we can do some sort of competition or contest. We all like competing and it makes it fun."

Hansen has also been selected to play as an individual at the West Super Regional on May 5-7 in Mansfield, Texas.

Hansen has a 77.5 scoring average, finished among the top 10 in six of their nine tournaments and placed third in the conference tournament.

Junior Anna Bourland and Branigan are Western's two other GNAC first-team all-stars, after

taking first and second place at the conference last week. Bourland ranked third among GNAC scoring leaders at 78.9.

Both Hansen and Branigan pointed to Stephan's experience as a key factor that makes him successful as a coach.

"He was a player himself," Hansen said of Stephan. "He knows how to relate to us. He deals with handling our problems well and encourages us to do our best."

This is Stephan's third time receiving Coach of the Year honors in the past four seasons.

"He is very experienced," Branigan said. "At the tournaments he has played the courses and seen his players play them before, so he has a lot of good advice."

Women's Rowing

Women's crew has another strong showing in California

By Jennifer Seifried

Western's women's rowing team had two shells advance to the grand finals at the Western Intercollegiate Rowing Association (WIRA) Championships after winning qualifying heats on Saturday, April 26, in Sacramento, California. In the finals on Sunday, April 27, Varsity 4 won its race and Varsity 8 came in second to Humboldt State University.

On Saturday, the V8 shell won by seven seconds with a time of 7:01.40. University of Puget Sound came in second at 7:08.40. The V4 shell had a time of 7:50.00 over the 2,000-meter course and won by 14.10 seconds with California State University, Long Beach as runner-up.

Cosette Still, a V4 rower, said the conditions were perfect for rowing.

"When you think of California, you think 'sunny,' but it was overcast and cool," Still said. The water was nice, there was a breeze coming out of the southwest and it wasn't too windy."

WIRA is an American collegiate conference that sponsors rowing. Col-



Two shells from the Western women's rowing team advanced to the grand finals at the Western Intercollegiate Rowing Association on Saturday, April 26, in Sacramento, California. // Photo courtesy of the Western Athletic Department

leges can register for the regatta, which takes place annually at the Sacramento State Aquatic Center on Lake Natoma. Currently, for women's rowing, there are 32 universities listed as registered

members.

This weekend was Western's best chance to confirm their spot at nationals by getting a regional bid, V4 coxswain Kate Nelson said.

Even though V4 won their race on Sunday, they cannot go to nationals without V8. However, V8 can go to nationals on their own if they were to win a regional bid, Nelson said.

V8 has the top eight athletes, and that shell is worth more points for Western in regattas and competitions, Nelson said.

Still said the next step is to focus on training for the Windermere Cup on Saturday, May 3, at the Montlake Cut in Seattle.

This was the first race of the season where V8 had a new lineup. Senior Lauren Ramstead, the rower usually occupying the number 6 seat, was out with a back injury and is expected to return next week. Sophomore Olivia Gangmark-Strickland, who has been in the V4 shell so far this season, rowed number 6 at WIRA.

Seated in V8 were coxswain Mae-gan Callegari, Catrina Cuadra, Regan Wessman, Olivia Rowland, Megan Marler, Katya Hewitt, Christine Henie, Emily Bartlett and Emily Little.

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Track and Field

Track team scores two Athlete of the Week awards

By Racquel Arceo

Lindsay Wells, Western senior and track and field thrower, was named Red Lion/Great Northwest Athletic Conference Female Track and Field Athlete of the Week for the third time this year. Wells landed the honor after the 33rd annual Western Washington University Ralph Vernacchia meet on Saturday, April 26, at the Bellingham Civic Stadium.

In addition to Wells, Western sophomore and track and field thrower John Haskin was named Red Lion/Great Northwest Athletic Conference Male Track and Field Athlete of the Week following the meet.

"It was good that I performed well here at Western," Haskin said. "But I'm still trying to make the marks to go to the national championships and I'm just that much closer."

Haskin placed second at the meet, meeting provisional standards in men's javelin with a score of 193-11.

"I'm just trying to get better and this is part of it I guess," Haskin said.

Wells added almost three feet to her previous school record in the hammer throw with a 182-4 throw and was named second-longest throw in GNAC history.

"I haven't [set personal records] this much, this early in the season, so that's exciting," Wells said.

Wells' throw put her on track to qualify for nationals.



Western distance runner Marty Pletcher takes off through a puddle during the 33rd annual Western Washington University Ralph Vernacchia track meet on Saturday, April 26 at Civic Stadium in Bellingham. // Photo by Kyra Betteridge

"It's good," Wells said. "It's exciting because it's my last year."

Another notable mark from the meet came from Matt Lutz, Western sophomore and distance runner, earning a national provisional quali-

fication by winning the 3,000-steepchase.

"It was an exciting weekend," sophomore team member Bethany Drake said. "It's always fun competing at home, and the sun came out

and that was a pleasant surprise."

The next meet will be the Great Northwest Athletic Conference Multi-Events hosted by Central Washington University on Tuesday, April 29, in Ellensburg, Washington.



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